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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/090,261	03/01/2002	Chintan H. Sheth	NAI1P100/01.314.01	4167

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EXAMINER

LIN, WEN TAI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 07/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/090,261

Applicant(s)

SHETH ET AL.

Examiner

Wen-Tai Lin

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2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 May 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-28 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen et al.[U.S. Pat. No. 5506955].

4. As to claims 1-28, Chen teaches the invention as claimed including: a method for translating protocol decode objects, comprising:

(a) receiving a plurality of frames [e.g. TCP or UDP data packets obtained over the network];

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(b) decoding the frames in order to generate protocol decode objects each with a numerical identifier associated therewith [e.g., SNMP data obtained via "get" and "get next" requests are organized as a SNMP object consisting of a hierarchy of variables]; (c) translating each numerical identifier to a textual identifier; and (d) displaying each textual identifier associated with the protocol decode objects for facilitating the use of the protocol decode objects during network analysis [col.46, lines 20-37], wherein a subset of variables and the hierarchy is referred to as a MIB file. By describing the MIB file in ASN.1, translation of the numerical object identifiers is achieved by making use of a definition table (i.e. a symbol map or lookup table) that is constructed from the SNMP/MIB data structure [col.47, lines 25-40].

Note that although Chen does not specifically teach detailed receiving, compiling, loading, decoding and displaying steps as claimed in the claim languages, these steps are nevertheless inherent steps toward the implementation of Chen's method as cited from col.46, lines 20-37 and col.47, lines 25-40.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al.(hereafter "Chen")[U.S. Pat. No. 5506955] in view of SNMPTranslate [Zeus Documentation].

7. As to claims 1-28, Chen teaches the invention substantially as claimed including: a method for translating protocol decode objects, comprising:

(a) receiving a plurality of frames [e.g. TCP or UDP data packets obtained over the network];

(b) decoding the frames in order to generate protocol decode objects each with a numerical identifier associated therewith [e.g., SNMP data obtained via "get" and "get next" requests are organized as a SNMP object consisting of a hierarchy of variables];

(c) translating each numerical identifier to a textual identifier; and (d) displaying each textual identifier associated with the protocol decode objects for facilitating the use of the protocol decode objects during network analysis [col.46, lines 20-37], wherein a subset of variables and the hierarchy is referred to as a MIB file. By describing the MIB file in ASN.1, translation of the numerical object identifiers is achieved by making use of a definition table (i.e. a symbol map or lookup table) that is constructed from the SNMP/MIB data structure [col.47, lines 25-40].

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Chen does not specifically teach the details of the translation steps.

However, SNMPTranslate teaches a software routine called "SNMPTRANSLATE" for translating the SNMP objects into another form of information, including interpreting the object ids from the numerical identifiers to their symbolic counterparts. Throughout the illustrated examples, it is obvious that execution of the "SNMPTRANSLATE" command must have followed all the detailed steps as claimed because these are nominal steps necessary for constructing a symbol table based on the Chen's MIB file that is written in ASN.1.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Goodwin [U.S. Pat. No. 4636940].

9. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 (three) months and 0 days from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in ABANDONMENT of the application (see 35 U.S.C. 133, M.P.E.P. 710.02, 710.02(b)).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wen-Tai Lin whose telephone number is (703)305-4875. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-5:00) .

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (703)305-8498. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)872-9306 for official communications; and

(703)746-5516 for status inquires draft communication.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Wen-Tai Lin

June 24, 2004

Wen-Tai Lin
6/24/04